



## **Meeting Minutes**

May 18, 2023

6:00 PM

Kelly Leadership Center  
Room 1101 B  
14715 Bristow Rd  
Manassas, VA 20112

**Present:** JET Appointees –Chinaka Barbour, Kenny Boddye, Jennifer Boeder, Karen Carney, Adele Jackson, Dr. Earnie Porta, Thomas Smith, Matthew Villareale, Jessica Weimer

Giulia Manno – Director Office of Sustainability, Salita Gray – Joint Environmental Taskforce Clerk

**Absent:** JET Appointee Connor Hernandez, Arman Lateef, Julius Williams, Paige Thacker

**Roll Call and Determination of Quorum:** Quorum Present

**Public Comment Time:** Charlie Grymes spoke on problems with kids not walking to school, buses emitting greenhouse gases and getting fewer people driving and more walking. Suggested having volunteers that can identify the gaps and safety issues that are deterring students from walking to school. Michael Wedge inquired about every county having their own plan to reduce greenhouse gases. He asked if the state of Virginia has their own goals and plan.

**Consent Agenda:** Approved April 20, 2023 meeting minutes, change to bullet 6 in taskforce time to compost school project. [VOTING RECORD: Motion A Jackson; Second M Villareale; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays- None]

**Old Business:** Dr. E Porta reviewed the Areas of Focus list with appointees and requested feedback via email for any edits.

### **Departmental Reports:**

- Jeanne Jabara, Bernie Osilka and Dominik Bonshire presented the PWC Public Schools Food Waste Composting and Education Pilot project. Implemented a 24 month pilot program for 6 schools to divert organic waste from landfill. They collected food waste from pilot schools, educated staff and students on sustainability benefits and tracked data to explore the feasibility of expanding the program division-wide. Expected outcomes of this program were to save landfill space utilize a regional facility, create cross-curricular

instruction with community-based applications and leadership skills development from students. There currently is not funding available to continue or expand the program.

- G Manno provided a briefing on the Community Energy and Sustainability Master Plan and climate mitigation and resiliency goals. The current top 25 DRAFT high priority actions were shared with the JET. Further stakeholder engagement will be taking place for feedback and refinement. The county will begin working on the first draft of the plan next month.

#### New Business:

Dr. E Porta suggested that the JET look into assisting with finding safe routes for walking to school. J Weimer will be looking into what data is currently available for feasibility of safe walkability.

#### Member Time:

- T Smith requested a presentation on plans to electrify the county's fleet.
- C Barbour informed that she works for Fairfax County Fire and Rescue department and was able to attend a presentation about proposing new electric fire engines.
- Dr. E Porta requested if any appointee would like to see a presentation on a specific topic to please reach out to him.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 PM**